

48 (BU)

PINE HILL TRAIL SYSTEM

*Woodbridge
and Seymour, CT*

This Birmingham Utilites Watershed Ecosystem Area – the Pine Hill Trail—is located in the Towns of Woodbridge and Seymour. This blue-blazed trail system is adjacent to the Peat Swamp Reservoir and includes young forest that was likely farm land in the early 1900's. The trail includes old farm roads with many stone walls among this mixed-hardwood forest, with some groupings of hemlock, and even an old Christmas tree plantation. The forest is actively managed for timber harvest.

The white, numbered discs on the trees signal the following points of interest:

1. Christmas tree field includes white, blue, and black spruce, and white pine.
2. The brook diverts into the Peat Swamp Reservoir.
3. Timber harvest in this area allows more light and improves wildlife habitat.
4. Whiteoak. Known as the Tulip Tree.
5. White blazes indicate boundary of a Future Old Growth Preserve.
6. Trees seeded to replace red pine.
- 7-8. Stone walls separate former pasture & field.

9. Black Oak. Has furrowed bark.
10. Deer trail into the brook valley.
11. Old road used for skidding out timber.
12. Yellow Birch. Yellow tint on bark.
13. Black Birch. Horizontal stripes on bark.
14. Pine Hill Brook flows into Beaver Brook, but is diverted into the Middle Reservoir.
- 15-17. White Oak and Red Oak.
18. Hemlocks. Evergreen devastated by the hemlock wooly adelgid. Logged over.
20. Possible Native American rock shelter.
21. American Beech. Produces "beechnuts."
- 22 & 23. Scarlet Oak and White Oak.
24. White Pine. Five-needle native pine.
25. Peat Swamp Reservoir (aka Beaver Lake). Good views when leaves are down.
26. Larger White pines planted in 1914.
27. White spruce planted in 1916.
28. Red Maple. Most common CT tree.
29. Red Oak. Most valuable timber tree.
30. Naturally seeded white pine stand.
31. Stream is from another diversion.
32. White pines planted from 1913-1931.
33. Small (springtime) vernal pool. Crucial amphibian breeding area.
- 34-35. Mockernut and Pignut Hickories.
- 36-37. Granite town line monument up the hill to the right. Stone wall early boundary.
38. Parallel stone walls. Likely "cattle lane" to keep livestock from the crop fields.

39. Shagbark Hickory. Shaggy bark.
38. Oak stand with many varieties.
39. Town line marker dated 1881.
40. Sugar Maple. Used for maple syrup.
41. Scarlet, Red, and Black Oak.
42. Sassafras. Mitten-shaped leaves.
43. "Charcoal Alley." Remnants of charcoal mounds. Indicated with CP signs.
44. Highbush Blueberry. Edible fruit!
45. American Chestnut. Root sprout.
46. Large boulders are glacial erratics.
47. Low shrubs are Sweet Pepperbush.
- 50, 54, & 57. Diversion ditches from shrub swamps channeling water to the Peat Swamp Reservoir.
51. Witch Hazel. Has winter "flowers."
52. Forest changes to dry oak ridge.
53. Chestnut and Rock Oak.
55. Oak gives way to hardwoods.
56. Pepperidge or Blackgum. "Tupelo."
58. Wetland to right, Upland left.
59. Old road originally connected to Rimmon Road.
60. The stream from #s 50, 54, and 57.
61. Cellar hole to the right.
62. Ironwood. Strong US hardwood.
63. Basswood. Favorite of carvers.
64. Spicebush. Fragrant when crushed.
65. Swamp White Oak. Likes moist soil.

Birmingham Utilities Watershed/Ecosystem Area - PERMIT REQUIRED

Directions and Parking:

The Pine Hill Trail System is reached via an access road off of Rimmon Road (Route 313). Trail parking is located on the access road, just off of Rimmon Road.

Permitted Activities:

This site is for passive use and hiking only. All motorized vehicles are prohibited. Wading, swimming, biking and horseback riding are prohibited. Dogs are not permitted.

For more information about this location and to obtain a permit— contact:

Birmingham Utilities
Watershed Manager
(203) 735-1888

This project made possible through a grant from the National Recreational Trails Program, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.



Information for this brochure is excerpted from BUT's Guide to its Hiking Trails.

South Central Regional Council of Governments

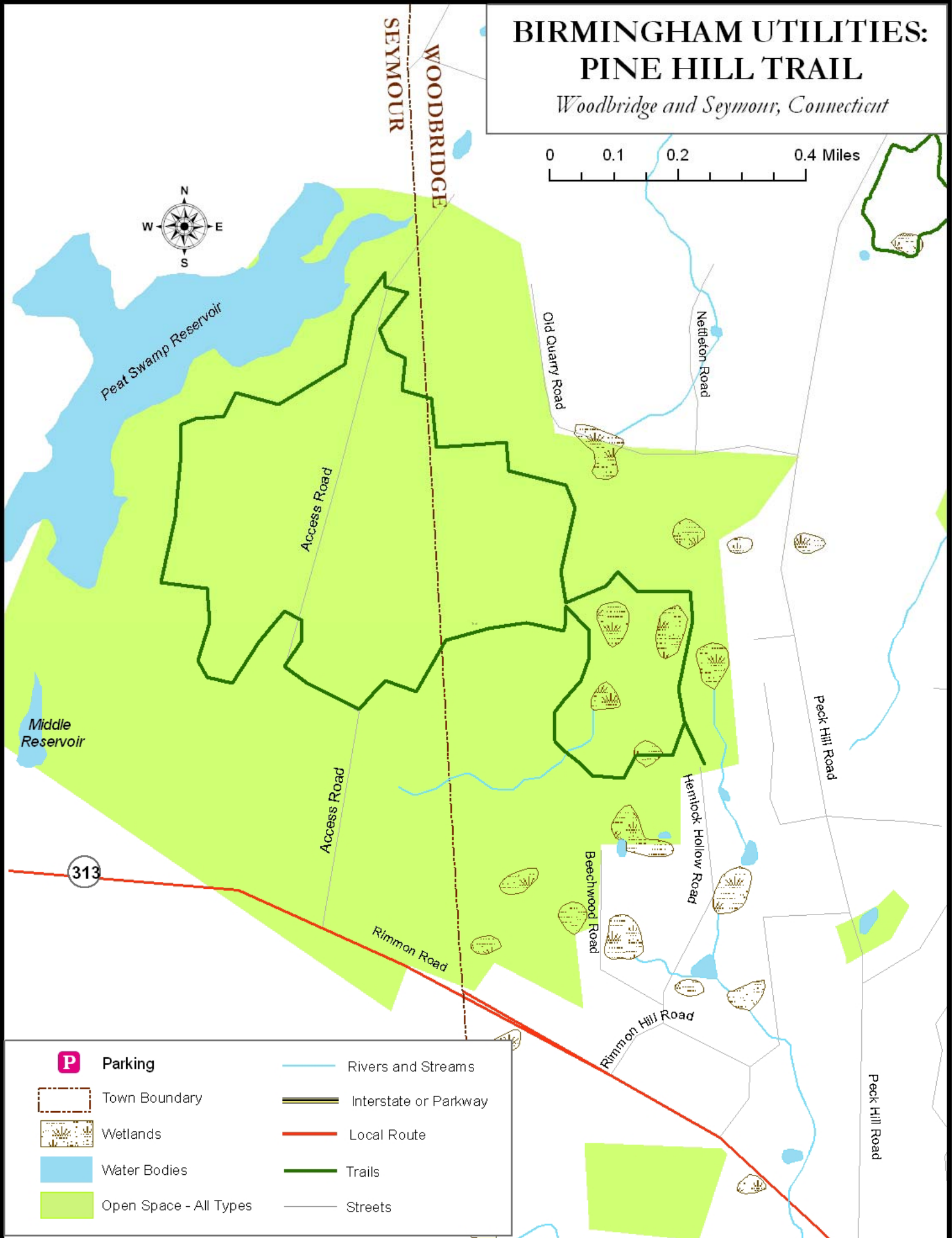
127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West
North Haven, CT 06473

Phone: (203) 234-7555
Fax: (203) 234-9850
E-mail: trails@scrcog.org

BIRMINGHAM UTILITIES: PINE HILL TRAIL

Woodbridge and Seymour, Connecticut

0 0.1 0.2 0.4 Miles



P

Parking



Town Boundary



Wetlands



Water Bodies



Open Space - All Types

Rivers and Streams

Interstate or Parkway

Local Route

Trails

Streets